

Front Street Improvement Project- Update: February 26, 2010

- The contractor has completed the 8th week of Stage 1 of the project which is scheduled to be substantially completed by the end of March. T.A. Loving continues to tackle the most difficult section of the project within the south side of the Market Street intersection. The push to complete underground utility and electrical construction will set the stage for rebuilding of the sidewalks and crosswalks. The traffic patterns were not altered this week and currently the contractor is providing above 90 hours of crew time with an increased use of sub-contractors. The City is working closely with TA Loving to stay on schedule and stay on top of coordination.



- **This week**, the contractor made important milestones in the construction of the water main and advancement of the electrical work. Three critical valves were installed under pressure onto the water mains which will allow additional tie-in work to occur without the need to shut-off water to customers. This will set the stage for the filling and testing of the new 16-inch water main and lateral lines up to Princess Street, followed by the transfer of individual services within 2 weeks. Also, the contractor removed the overhead traffic signals and demolished the traffic signal poles. The utility work in the intersection was tight and required assistance from Piedmont Natural Gas and AT&T/ANSCO to relocate existing gas and telephone facilities. The traffic signal and electrical contractors were both busy installing conduits, pull boxes, and light posts around the four corners of the intersection. Installation of the granite curbing was started in the 000 block.



- **Next week**, the contractor will continue working in the south side of the intersection and begin final preparation of the water main and services. A notice will be given to business owners regarding the 7-day notice prior to the transfer of water services. The goal for next week is also to complete the underground electrical (light pole feeds and foundations). Once completed with underground utility work at the intersection, the road base will be rebuilt. At that time, the curbing and crosswalks will be set and/or poured, setting the way for brick paver installation. Additional granite curbing will be set up to the mid-block area for preparation of eventual pavement.
- The City continues to work with business owners to address concerns and tangible issues such as parking and water service. Also, the City is working with property managers who are making improvements and require sidewalk permits for temporary closures. More information about the project can be found on the City's website at www.wilmingtonnc.gov.
- The contractor, TA Loving, will be working this Saturday, February 27.